

MI Child Support Formula - Child Support Review

From: "Shawn Kequom" <skequom@isriinc.com>
To: <mcsf@courts.mi.gov>
Date: 6/20/2003 11:35 AM
Subject: Child Support Review
CC: <wendland@freepress.com>

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to let you know my concerns about the child support system and the review that you are now doing.

My husband has a son that was born out of wedlock to his girlfriend. She was at the time on ADC when the child was born. When the FOC stepped in to make my husband pay child support for this child, through the Family Independent Agency, their concern was child support **only**. He was not advised at that time that he has no visitation, custody, nothing. Only Child Support. As the child became older and they separated, he contacted the court, only to be told that his only right was to pay child support. There is no visitation/custody order--that it was up to him to hire an attorney and go to court to get these things. That they could not make the ex-girlfriend allow the son to see his father (he is not even on the birth certificate)--the son is now 16 years old--born in 1987. At first, the mother would allow visitation on **her TERMS ONLY**. Eventually, she disallowed us to see him anymore.

All these years, we have paid \$150.00/week in child support, only we have not seen this child. We are responsible for medical coverage as well. (both my husband and myself --the stepmother--pay for this coverage on him). This mother has gone onto getting a better job, and earning more money than we both make. When she married, she moved to Tennessee, and left the child with her parents here in Michigan--in the same town that we live in (for over 5 years)--meanwhile still paying child support to her through the FOC. (where did all these payments go?? to her and not to the grandparents??--we were told it was not our business. When we contacted the court, we were told "Hire an attorney". Who can afford this??????????

For all these years, we have paid faithfully. Only to be told by the Friend of the Court, "Hire an attorney". The son was recently arrested for drugs and the Family Court Circuit Division printed a court ordered notice to appear for my husband to appear in Court for these charges on his son. WHY????? We have no say/rights for anything!!! (They printed this even though we have lived in the same place for 8 years!!!!--the mother, son, and both her parents know both our address and phone number, but advised the court that they did not know even though our address is correct with the Friend of the Court). Apparently, the courts do not interact with each other????

Although the son is now grown, he will not call, visit or attempt to see his brother and sisters. He tells us to "F-- Off". We can only hope that someday the boy will come around and see the light.

What rights do the father have when the ex refuses to let the husband be a part of his life???? THE RIGHT TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT!!!!!!!

Best Regards,

Shawn L. Kequom
 Wife of a Father Who Has No Rights!!